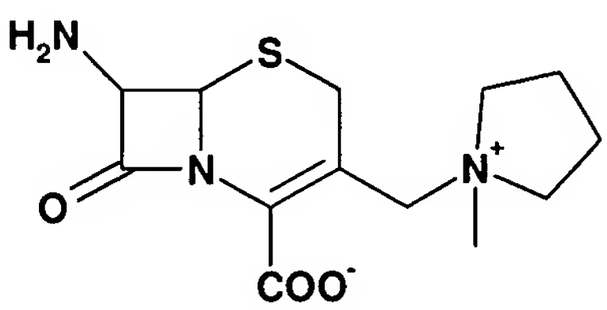
IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-11 (Cancelled)

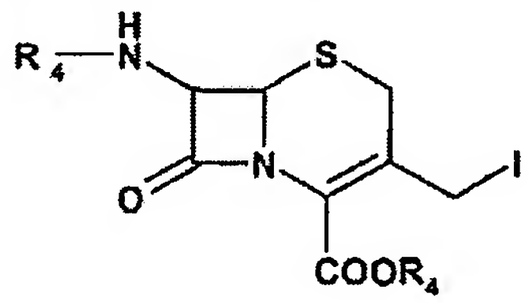
12. (New) A process for the production of a compound of formula 1A



IA

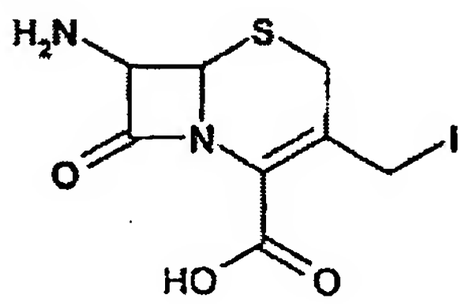
comprising the steps of:

a) desilylation of a compound of formula II,



II

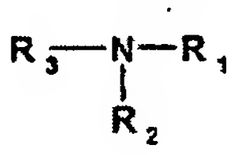
wherein R4 is a silyl-protecting group, by adding a protic solvent to obtain a compound of formula III;



III

and

b) reacting the compound of formula III with an organic base of formula IV,



IV

wherein R2 and R3 together represent a C4-alkylene group, and with the adjacent nitrogen atom form a saturated 5-membered heterocycle, and R1 represents a methyl group, to obtain the compound of formula 1A.

13. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein steps a) and b) are carried out simultaneously in a reaction container.

14. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the protic solvent comprises a (C_{1-4})-alcohol or a mixture of several (C_{1-4})-alcohols.

15. (New) The process according to claim 13, wherein the protic solvent comprises a (C_{1-4})-alcohol or a mixture of several (C_{1-4})-alcohols.

16. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises at least one selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n- propanol, 2-methyl-propan-2-ol, glycol, glycerol, propanediol, or butanediol.

17. (New) The process according to claim 14, wherein the alcohol comprises isopropanol or 1,2-butanediol.

18. (New) The process according to 12, wherein the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) is obtained in the form of an acid addition salt and/or hydrate.

19. (New) The process according to 12, further comprising converting the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) to the form of an acid addition salt and/or a hydrate.

20. (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein the acid addition salt is a hydriodide or a hydrochloride.

21. (New) The process according to claim 19, wherein the hydrate is a monohydrate.

22. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 1 hour after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

23. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 30 minutes after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

24. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 10 minutes after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

25. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the organic base of formula IV is added within 1 minute after the protic solvent is added to the compound of formula II.

26. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a Δ3/Δ2 ratio of greater than 95/5.

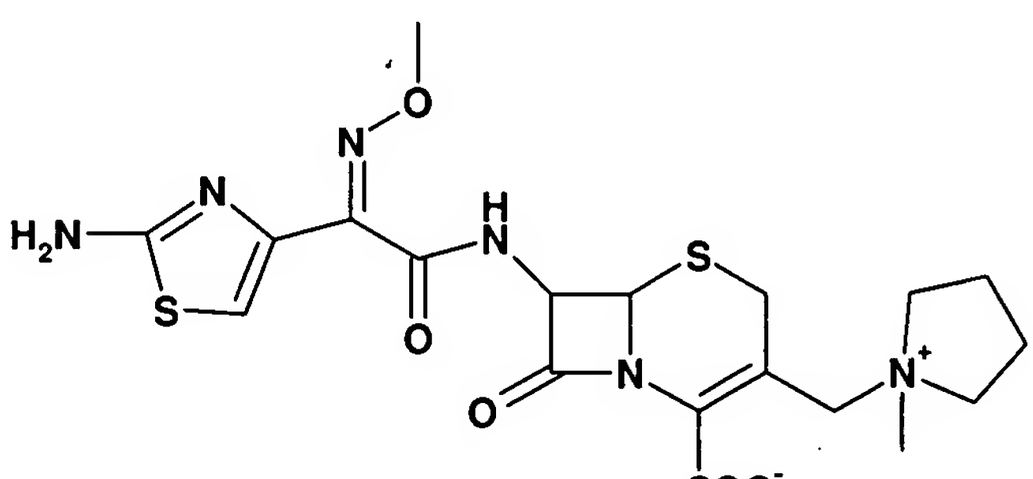
27. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a Δ3/Δ2 ratio of greater than 95/1.

28. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a Δ3/Δ2 ratio of greater than 95/0.5.

29. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A produced has a Δ3/Δ2 ratio of greater than 95/0.1.

30. (New) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound of formula 1A is free of Δ2 compounds of formula 1A.

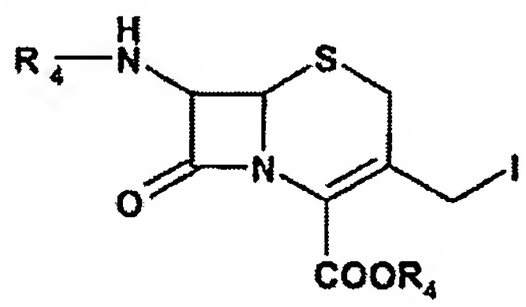
31. (New) A process for the production of cefepime of formula V



V

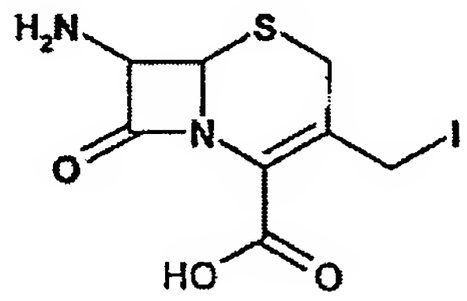
or one of its acid addition salts or its hydrates, the process comprising the steps of:

a) desilylation of a compound of formula II,



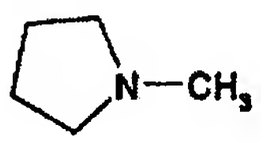
II

wherein R4 is a silyl-protecting group, by adding a protic solvent to obtain a compound of formula III



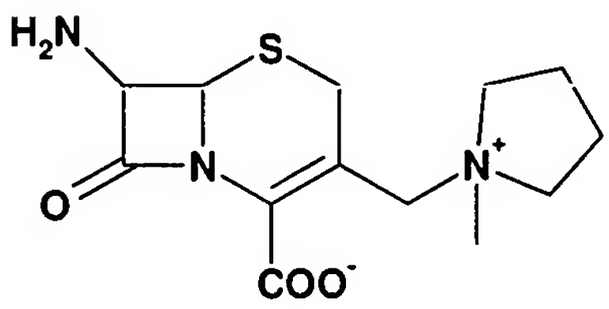
III

b) reacting the compound of formula III obtained in step a) with a strong organic base of formula IVA



IVA

to obtain a compound of formula IA;



IA

c) optional conversion of the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) into a form of an acid addition salt and/or a hydrate; and

d) acylation of the 7-amino group of the compound of formula IA obtained from step b) or of its acid addition salt and/or hydrate obtained from step c) to obtain the cefepime of formula V, wherein the steps a) and b) are carried out simultaneously in a reaction chamber.